

THE POCAHONTAS TIMES

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CALVIN W. PRICE, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, MAY 30 1918

And Jonathan arose and went to David into the wood and strengthened his hand. And he said unto him. Fear not, thou shalt be king over Israel, and I shall be next unto thee. And they two made a covenant, and David abode in the wood and Jonathan went to his house.

And they mourned and wept and fasted, for David and for Jonathan, and for the people of Israel for they had fallen out.

And they lamented this lamentation over David and over Jonathan:

The beauty of Israel is slain upon the high places: how are the mighty fallen!

Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon: lest the sons of the Philistines rejoice, lest sons of the uncircumcised triumph.

We are distressed for thee, David and Jonathan: very pleasant hast thou been to us: thy love each to the other was wonderful, passing the love of women.

Senator Chilton and Senator Watson will oppose each other in the Democratic primaries for the nomination for the office of United States Senator. It will be a notable contest. Senator Chilton has winning ways and Senator Watson was never known to do a vain thing. No circus are expected this year, but there will be some exhibitions of distressed political acrobats walking the tight rope with a bucket of water on each shoulder, that will be well worth seeing.

When David and Jonathan divide, where does it leave their mutual friends? It is very distressing but such occurrences are most frequent in politics, and the mutual friends manage to bear up pretty well.

After the first flurry of excitement, we came to the conclusion that we had better let them both run and let the man that gets the most votes be the nominee.

This is the first old fashioned wet weather spring that we have had in this county for several years and as a consequence the prospect pleases. Nothing like a wet April and May to get things growing in the mountains just right. It used to be the rule that we could count on plenty of rain in the mountains in the forepart of the summer. Then came years of the dry winds of April and May and we did not know what was the matter with the country. This year the woods are damp, moist, and pleasant and an irresistible desire comes to go away back in the woods and camp out in some of the pleasant places that we know of. All we lack is the time, means, and energy. But it does no harm to dream of contented places.

Recreation is the word. Lose a week and add a year to your life. That is a proposition that ought to appeal to every forward looking man. But it is not the cold calculating man that goes camping. It is the man who throws back to the wild wood man from whom he descended and throws off the shackles of civilization and finds pleasure in the pathless woods and in the discomforts of camp life. It is different. The Pharisee will argue that if you want to sleep on the ground that all you will have to do is to open the door and repose under the lilac bushes in the front yard. There are some objections to that. We all live in great towns to talk. And then the rest of the family might not understand the natural motives that led the old man to flee the feathers for the front yard, and they would be setting up and worrying about him and asking the minister to talk to him, or even consulting the doctor about the symptoms. The best way to do is to form a conspiracy with other wild men and have an uprising and light out for some vast wilderness and set up a campfire there. That is the accepted way and there is some chance for peace then.

"Minerva, wake up, your pa has taken a notion to sleep out under the syringa bush and I don't know what to do about it!"

"I don't either, ma. Maybe if you went out there and made a noise like a rattlesnake, you might run him in."

There are two prime incentives in these mountains. In the summer it is fishing and in the fall it is hunting. It is the proper thing to take your fishing rod but it is not necessary to take it out of its case. In fact a fishing rod will last much longer if it is kept in the case. So too with the gun in the fall.

In a camping party there are generally enough enthusiasts to give the camp fare a taste of wildness by the contributions of game and fish.

The days glide by in camp and there is a satisfaction there that is not to be had anywhere else.

"If thou art worn and hard beset, With sorrows, that thou wouldst

forget, If thou wouldst read a lesson that thy heart keep

They heart from fainting, and thy soul from sleep, Go to the woods and hills: No tears Dim the sweet look that nature wears."

Sleeping on the ground is more of an art than most persons think. The best way to tell the difference between the solid rock, the plank floor, and the ground, is to try to pass a night on each. The hardest oak is soft compared to the rock, and the earth is comparatively soft to either. Most persons are so constituted that they cannot sleep on the flat of the back, and sleep by turning from side to side. The great weariness that comes from sleeping all night in this position on the ground is caused by the projection on each side of the hips, where the great bone of the leg joins the body, forming a lump, and generally referred to by the anatomist as the trochanter. So the poor man pivots on the trochanter and gets all sorts of aches and pains. The body subconsciously seeks some depression of the surface that will fit this part of the body and afford relief, but it is a very simple matter for the camper to hollow out such a place and improve his resting place. If the camp is permanent, a good bed can soon be made by the use of evergreen boughs. The parts used should be about the size of goose feathers and laid down the same way and constantly renewed. Such a bed carefully made is sweet smelling and comfortable, but it takes a lot of time, and should be added to as it dries out and withers.

The matter of drinks in camp is important. It was once thought stimulants were necessary to the life of camp, but that was all a figment. The further you go up, the longer and harder the fall. Whiskey is the most easily dispensed with of all the list of items. In the course of many years' experience we never knew an instance where it was necessary to the well being of the camper. On the other hand firewater has a tendency to offset the good effects of a period spent in the woods.

Last week a sheriff of one of the counties in Maine, where the woods offer about the same inducement that our own mountains do, decided officially that the proper amount of liquor per man was two quarts for an ordinary camping trip, but that is out of the question in West Virginia. In the northern woods, to judge by the voluminous writers on camp life, tea is the main beverage. And tea is an important item on the bill of fare in the loggers' camp here, dating back to the time when the native born were taught the logging art by the down easters who came here to work. But we have never known a bunch that had any use for tea in camp. Being a much read man we took a private stock of tea to the woods one time and cooked the greens and let it stand on the leaves and drank it. The result was that it had a sort of a tanning effect on the lining, and was about as wholesome as any other sort of poison. Do not pizen yourself. Take a piece of cheese cloth six inches square and tie up the tea in it. Pour boiling water over it and let it set for five minutes and then fish out the bag of tea leaves and throw the tea leaves away. That tea will be healthy.

In this country coffee is the great stand by in camp. Nobody takes to the woods without it. It is next place to salt in the outfit. The best way to make it is to have a wire hoop covered with cheese cloth and set it on top of the coffee pot and place the ground coffee on it. Pour boiling water over it and repeat this several times if you want the coffee strong. This gives good coffee of uniform excellence.

After all is said and done however, it is the water that you get in the woods from small streams that run through the shade of the wood that counts the most on camping expeditions. This is the purest and best water known.

A careful reading of the works of the late Isaac Walton will show you that he never knew anything about real wild fishing. All his fishing was carried on in the green fields of old England, and he seems to have counted that day lost, whose setting sun did not bring him in sight of a taverin. Setting around in the hot sun in a boat on the edge of the great waterhole known as the ocean, is as tame as killing hogs as a great mountaineer once expressed it. Pegging down a fishing line and waiting for a bite will do for the women, the children, the lame, and the halt and the aged. But the way to fish is to go after the game fish of the troubled waters of the mountain streams.

Probably there is nothing closer to nature than for young men to go into the fastness of the mountains and follow the trout streams for many days and for many miles, camping by the side of the waters when night comes, with or without a shelter. Under such conditions it is possible to recover a lost art, as to be able to sleep sound in the rain, which is

perhaps the test of all tests of wood craft.

There is no reason why any young man should forego the experience. The many thousands of mountain men who have done this do not think of this as unusual. The period of time is generally fixed by the weight of the trout collected, the party coming into the settlement when the weight gets sufficient to call a halt.

An outfit for this sort of a trip is not long. Take it with you:

- Fishing tackle,
- Matches in a bottle,
- Salt
- Bacon
- Hunk of flat bread
- Coffee
- Sugar
- Coffee pot
- Frying pan
- One hatchet

Nessmuk's gnat dope: 3 parts oil of pine tar, 2 parts of castor oil, 1 part of oil of pennyroyal.

With this outfit you should be fairly comfortable and enjoy the trip. Any ordinary summer rain will not faze you. Unusual rains that cause floods mean that the trip is to be abandoned and that you are to come in.

We have recently been reading once again Stewart Edward White's book, "Camp and Trail," which is a very valuable work and authority for any one who makes a practice of camping out. We know enough about camping to recognize the value of his directions, ranging from how to cut a hole in your hat for ventilation, to the throwing of a diamond hitch. An arrangement of rope that we had acquired in some way, we found classified in this book as the squaw hitch, an humble but effective way of securing a pack on the back of friend horse.

We are going to set down some of his tables here of the minimum for comfort per man for thirty days in camp.

Grub: 15 pounds of either flour, cornmeal, or pancake flour, or in proportion to suit.

- 15 lbs. bacon
- 8 lbs. rice
- 1-2 lb. baking powder
- 1 lb. of tea
- 2 lbs sugar
- 150 saccharine tablets
- 8 lbs oatmeal (can be used as flour)
- 1 lb raisins
- Salt and pepper
- 5 lbs beans
- 3 lbs. Erbswurst
- 2 lbs. dried vegetables
- 2 lbs dried potatoes
- 1 can of Baker's eggs.

Personal Equipment

- Matches and safe
- Pocket knife
- Compass
- 1 bandana
- Sporting outfit, fishing or hunting
- Duffle bag
- Soap.
- Towel
- Tooth brush
- Tooth soap
- Shaving set
- Medicine and bandages
- Fly dope
- Camp outfit
- Tent
- Rubber blanket
- Blanket
- Pillow case of denim
- Pocket axe
- File and whetstone
- Needle and thread
- Waxed end
- Piece of buckskin
- Cook outfit
- Reflector oven
- 1 tin cup
- 1 coffee pot
- 1 pail
- 1 knife, fork and spoon.
- 1 plate
- Fry pan
- Food bags
- Dish towel

He does not believe in taking many clothes. On warm sunny days you wash your clothes and dry them while you wait. This is better than lugging a lot of dirty clothes. Use your own frame to hang your clothes on. Wrap your frame in a blanket while waiting for the laundry to dry.

Go to the woods where the foot of woman has never trod. It is great to get to the wilderness and see a deer track by a trout pool hard by a ginseng patch. There was a place where the waters meet where a band of hardy men gathered about a sign, and took solemn counsel together. There was the sign of a camp fire and the usual relics of a place where the human animal had tarried for awhile. The thing that caused surprise however, was that among the debris was a woman's shoe where such a thing was not to be looked for. This band had been coming to that place at odd times for many years, but never before was there any sign of an invasion by the softer sex. It was a matter to be inquired into. Robinson Crusoe and the foot print was a case in point. The woman had been there. Was there yet may be. How could she get out without her shoe? It was debated at considerable length then and later by the camp fire. The only conclusion ever reached that a woman had been in their woods.

Let anyone who so desires take a dry season for camping. For us, give us the fresh green woods that frequent summer rains insure. Such a season as we are now having. It is like-old times. It makes us hanker for the woods again.

"Water is the mother of the wine. The nurse and fountain of fecundity, The adorning and refresher of the world."

SOLDIER LETTERS

Editor Times:—Thinking a few lines from this camp might be of interest to your readers, I will give you a few scraps from a soldier's note book.

After leaving Camp Greenleaf we were taken to Camp Forrest where we had seven weeks intensive training. Having been assigned to the 6th Division M. D., I came here May 10, with Headquarters troops where the Division is mobilizing for foreign service.

I have lost sight and hearing of all but six of the Pocahontas boys that entrained with me, as our old company was split up and we were assigned no several different units.

I have been in three different training camps and find them very much the same except in climate and this place is much hotter than either of the others. We are quartered in tents now and that is all that saves us from sunstroke sometimes. I certainly could enjoy a breeze up in the West Virginia hills these hot days.

We drill about three days each week; the rest of the time we are on duty, supervising the sanitary work of the camp. There are 26 men in our squad and we have supervision of the kitchens, mess halls and garbage wagons' and are responsible for the sanitary condition of our territory. We do not have any work to do, but I would rather be drilling all the time, as I want to be a real soldier as soon as possible.

I am taking French lessons at night school which gives me something to occupy my leisure. This schooling is free to all soldiers, and we have the best French teachers, I consider it a good opportunity to get something so important to every soldier who goes to Europe.

Most of the Sammies are so eager to go to France that they don't think of anything else. One of the surprising things to civilian visitors is the eagerness of the boys to get started "over there" and the most dejected faces are to be seen in the casual camps where all the fellows turned down as unfit for overseas service are kept. However, our longings will be satisfied without a doubt, in a few more days and then—well, if the yellow streak appears it will be too late.

There has been several regiments moved from here since we came and many recruits brought in. Some of the late comers are West Virginia boys, brought here from Ft. Thomas, Ky., but I have not seen any of them yet.

Everything is quite convenient and comfortable here except the heat and we are getting accustomed to that, which is quite necessary, as a soldier must be able to endure extremes of heat and cold any many other things in order to render good service and be able to meet the Huns on their own terms. We do not want to be steeped in cruelty to humanity as they are, but only to meet them as soldiers able to defend our country against militaristic nations. If the Germans are still in doubt as to Uncle Sam's earnestness in this war they need only visit Camp Wadsworth and take a look at the boys in kakai, especially an infantry charge on a machine gun company in action.

You mothers, wives and sweet-hearts need not be uneasy about the boys at this camp as they are taken and most of them are in better spirits than you are.

Am expecting to be in France within a few weeks and will write you from over there. With best regards to all your readers.

Private Geo. A. Beale, San. Sqd. No. 2, Hdq. 6th Div. Camp Wadsworth, Spartanburg, N. C.

To the Editor and all the readers: We have only been in the army life since the 10th of May but will give a sketches of our experience.

We had a nice trip of eighteen hours ride from Marlinton to Fort Thomas, Kentucky. We stayed there four days and then a twenty-three hours ride from Ft. Thomas to Camp Wadsworth, S. C., making a total of forty-one hours.

This is a nice place, but hot, oh gee! We are drilling right in an old cotton field. This is a detention camp; we will move to the old camp soon. They are transferring most of the West Virginia boys from Georgia back to this place, and we know part of the m.

We saw a lot of German prisoners under barbed wire fence as we came through.

We want to thank the Red Cross for our Comfort kits; it would be hard to do without them.

To anybody wanting or wishing to write to us, we would be glad to hear

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is now back and making in his office over the Bank of Marlinton Building.

Notice to Bridge Contractors

Notice is hereby given that the County Court of Pocahontas County, West Virginia, will receive sealed bids until 12 o'clock, noon, on Tuesday, the 4th day of June, 1918 at Marlinton, West Va., for the construction of two reinforced concrete bridges, as follows, to-wit:

One across Knapp's Creek, near Frost, in said county, and the other across Rush Run, near Buckeye, in said County.

Plans and specifications for both of said bridges, may be seen at the County Court Clerk's Office of said Pocahontas County, W. Va., at Marlinton, and also at the Engineering Department of the State Road Commission of West Virginia, at Morgantown, W. Va. All work to be done in accordance with the State Road Commission's specifications.

A certified check for \$500.00 must accompany each bid, payable to the County of Pocahontas, to be retained by said County, as a liquidation of damages in case the bidder to whom the contract is awarded fails to enter into a contract and furnish the required bond within ten days from the awarding of the contract. All checks of unsuccessful bidders will be returned when contract is awarded or bids rejected and the check of the successful bidder will be returned when a contract has been entered into and bond furnished. The Court reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

—By order of County Court.
S. L. BROWN, Clerk.

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Announcements

To the people of the counties of Greenbrier and Pocahontas, which together make the 20th Judicial Circuit:

I am a candidate for office of Judge of the Circuit Court of the counties of Greenbrier and Pocahontas for the term, which commences after the election on the 5th day of November, 1918, and ends on the 31st day of December, 1920, subject to the action of the Democratic Party of such counties in convention assembled for the nomination of a candidate for such office.

—LOCKHART M. McCLINTIC.
Marlinton, W. Va.
May 6th, 1918.

We are authorized to announce G. D. McNeill a candidate for the office of County Superintendent of Schools, subject to the action of the Republican Primary election.

We are authorized to announce W. W. Arbogast, of Greenbank District, as a candidate for the nomination for Commissioner County Court, long term, subject to the action of the Democratic voters in the primary

We are authorized to announce J. B. Grimes a candidate for the office of County Superintendent of Schools, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary.